

WA TODAY

WASHINGTON ACADEMY

IGNITING MINDS. INSPIRING FUTURES.

SPRING 2026

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Spring 2026

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WA Today is created by the Washington Academy Development Office and published annually for WA alumni and friends.

Hello Raiders!



This year, East Machias is celebrating its 200th anniversary, and as we sit on Academy Hill in the center of town, we are still proudly growing! As always, our students are at the forefront of our efforts to improve what we do day-to-day. As we continue to strengthen and stay up to date with educational offerings, such as additional Advanced Placement courses and experiential learning opportunities, we must also consider their comfort and overall campus experience. After all, many students spend most of the week with us in the classrooms and on the athletic fields and courts. Therefore, we are excited to share the expansion and renovation of one of the most essential parts of campus - the kitchen and cafeteria (p. 7). This much-needed update will now return the Alumni Gymnasium to its original use and no longer a cafeteria. I know many of you will be pleased about that restoration.

Another student-centric project this year has included creating and announcing the WA College and Career Scholarship! (p. 11) The scholarship intends to award every Washington County student with $500 at the time of graduation, beginning with the Class of 2029. The award will help to offset the ever-rising costs of college, entrepreneurial projects, and starting life as a young adult, whatever that might look like. WA is here for its graduates and continues to support their success even after they receive their diplomas. Our students are amazing, and their high school accomplishments continue to impress me. A few student spotlights can be found in this edition's Campus Stories (pp. 9-10).

None of these things could be accomplished this year without teamwork. I am honored to work with a great group of staff, faculty, community members, and volunteers to do what we do with excellence. There is no greater example of the power of teamwork than the Raider volleyball program and the philosophy of its former Head Coach Corey Schwinn (p. 2). Their success on the court for over a decade inspired the teamwork theme of this *WA Today* edition. The power of being part of a team and its influence on relationships was very clearly demonstrated this year at the fourth Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony (p. 5). The Gardner Gymnasium was brimming with camaraderie, respect, and long-time friendships as we honored nine individual athletes and two teams.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the *WA Today!* There is no team I would rather be on than the one located at the top of Academy Hill - The Home of the Raiders!

Judson McBrine

Judson McBrine
Head of School

We are One is the saying associated with Corey Schwinn's coaching philosophy. The former head coach of the six-time state championship Raider volleyball team retired this past season. His legacy in the sport at Washington Academy is legendary and memorable. Coach Schwinn is known for his immeasurable passion for volleyball that is felt on the court and in the bleachers, leaving his players and spectators always anticipating the next match.

Over the past eleven seasons, his program has doubled in size, adding a "first team" alongside junior varsity and varsity teams. Athletes join Coach Schwinn's program because of its long-standing success, his expertise in the sport, and his family-like coaching style. His career record includes 155 wins, 26 losses, nine state game appearances, six state titles, six Conference Coach of the Year Awards, two All-State Awards, a MPA All-Class Coach of the Year Award, and one Portland Press Herald Coach of the Year Award. After the 2025 state championship win, a Raider volleyball fan remarked, "You can really tell these girls are playing for each other." It is the *We are One* philosophy that has enabled Coach Schwinn to achieve his career records and his players to become champions. It is all about the teamwork.

Coach Schwinn summarizes the program, "We do our best to establish leadership in the gym and then really focus on staying positive and encouraging at all times. Players provide positive feedback to their teammates, and they know that negativity is not part of our culture. Over the years, we have had a focus on the culture as part of the fabric of what we do, with minimal guidance from coaches."

"Early in my coaching career, I was struck by the negativity that frequently comes with competition. Having 'rivals' or speaking negatively about an opponent or team fuels competition. It seemed to me that this attitude toward competition teaches developing minds that disdain for others is acceptable, creating an 'us vs them' mentality. We set out to change that for our program.

We encourage players to make friends with their opponents. We celebrate the accomplishments of our opponents. A few years ago, we started hosting a summer team camp called Wildcat Weekend. Most coaches avoid playing their biggest competition out of season for fear that their opponent may learn about their team or that their competition may get better in the process. Well, we did the opposite. We invited them. Yes, we are making our competition better, which pushes us to play better. And we make long-standing friendships along the way."

Over the past decade, many of Coach Schwinn's players have remained involved in volleyball. His mentorship and passion for the sport are now conveyed through them, continuing his coaching legacy. Lauren Hall '21 has been the first-team coach for the past few years, and his longtime assistant, Kalyn Otto Stevens '16, has been coaching with him for six years.

"Players provide positive feedback to their teammates."



Serving Up Success



The 2025 Raider Volleyball Team enjoying the Class B State Championship victory over the York Wildcats. Assistant Coaches, Lauren Hall '21 and Kalyn Stevens '16, are seen with Head Coach Corey Schwinn in the middle row and far right of the photo.

Coach Schwinn shares, "Having former players involved in coaching at any level is very rewarding. Kalyn, Class of 2016, and Lauren, Class of 2021, are currently coaching at WA. There are more Raiders in other schools and clubs who are also coaching. Watching them interact with a team of their own always brings a smile. One of the more enjoyable aspects of coaching is to watch these students move through the program, gain skill and knowledge of not just the sport, but life, and then to watch them transition into adulthood. I am fortunate to stand on the sidelines of that incredible journey for so many. Kalyn and Lauren both had such a big impact on the program as student-athletes. I am pleased that they are interested in being back involved as adults."

When asked for advice that he would share with young coaches, Coach Schwinn states, "I hope they pursue their dreams and desires. If coaching is on their list of interests, they know they have my support and encouragement. We have so many WA volleyball graduates who are capable of developing a successful program one day and continuing to build it into the lives of student-athletes. Kalyn and Lauren both have that potential because they know the most important principle: that any successful program is really about developing young minds."

As Coach Schwinn leaves the Raider volleyball program, he will pass the torch to his assistant, Kalyn. Kalyn has had the rare experience of being coached by her mentor as a student-athlete, winning a championship title behind the net, and as a championship assistant on the sidelines with one of the best in the sport.



"Watching them interact with a team of their own always brings a smile."



New Head Coach

Meet the new Raider Volleyball Head Coach, Kalyn Stevens (*seen right in photo)*. Kalyn has played for former Head Coach Corey Schwinn during her senior year and has been on the sidelines coaching with him for six years. Her first year playing for him was the first Raider state championship year of the program. And as a senior, one of her fondest memories was when, during practice, Coach Schwinn introduced "the pancake" to the team.

Kalyn shares, "He had so much excitement and energy when he was explaining it, and we all thought it was the craziest thing to be able to save a ball by sliding your hand underneath it at the last second. Not long after that, there was a pancake attempt in a game. I remember Corey informing the refs during the game that the play was legal. The ref called the play dead, and after the game, Corey had his rulebook out to insist to the refs that a successful pancake keeps the ball alive. I don't think Downeast Maine had seen anything like that before. Corey's drive and advocacy have had a major impact on the level of play at WA, and the introduction of the pancake was just the start."

Kalyn spends nine to ten months a year coaching volleyball, organizing and executing the local junior high volleyball team, Downeast Storm, in the spring, participating in the annual Wildcat Weekend in the summer, and coaching Raider volleyball in the fall.

When asked what she hopes to accomplish in her first year as head coach, Kalyn shares, "I want to continue an environment where players have fun, grow their love for volleyball, and develop as players and as people."



Brecken (Barker) Mortland

Brecken Mortland has been a consistent supporter of the Raider volleyball program since she graduated in 2019. She often joins teams during the season for motivational practices and discussions. Brecken and her husband, Ryle, operate the Schoppee Farm in Machias, Maine, and welcomed their first child, Aria, in 2024.



Lauren Hall

Lauren Hall has been the Raider First Team Volleyball Coach for two years, mentoring student-athletes and building skills. She has also been an assistant to former varsity Head Coach Corey Schwinn for two years. Lauren is the owner of Studio 207 Hair Salon in East Machias, Maine.



Morgan Schwinn

Morgan Schwinn played club volleyball for three years with the University of Maine at Orono and helped coach the travel volleyball team, Wicked Northeast, for two years. Morgan resides in Portland, Maine, working as a high school math teacher in Gray-New Gloucester, Maine and is interested in pursuing coaching opportunities.



Marissa Cates

Marissa Cates is currently attending Thomas College in Waterville, Maine. She has played volleyball for the Terriers for two years and is majoring in early childhood education. Marissa will graduate this May and return to Washington County to start her professional career.



Autumn Balyint

Autumn Balyint is currently attending Husson University in Bangor, Maine, and has completed her first year playing volleyball as an Eagle. In addition to playing at the collegiate level, Autumn has been an assistant coach for the Wicked Northeast and Elite travel volleyball teams. She is a nursing major and plans to graduate in May of 2028.



Kellan Schwinn

Kellan Schwinn is finishing her senior year at WA with a list of accolades, including being selected as the 2025 Maine Volleyball Gatorade Player of the Year. Kellan recently donated the $1,000 Gatorade award to the Maine Volleyball Coaches Association to support and develop young volleyball players in training camps and workshops. She will play collegiate volleyball next fall at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts.



Serving the Next Generation

Emma Soctomah is a Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support Coordinator at the Indian Township School, at Peter Dana Point. In her role, she provides a safe space for students to take time to reflect, relax, and have a change of environment during heightened emotions.

During her important work, Emma often reflects on how Coach Schwinn hid life lessons in his coaching style. She utilizes his teachings daily to ensure that she gets to know her students, a concept similar to volleyball when a coach has to acclimate to the ways each athlete responds in a game setting.

Emma is also coaching her own 5th-8th-grade volleyball team at Indian Township School, and wants to be like Coach Schwinn. Emma declares, “I want to be involved, passionate, and resourceful while being empathetic and encouraging. I find myself constantly going back to the seasons I spent with Coach Schwinn, how he handled situations, and taught his players.”

Emma plans to pursue her Master’s degree in Educational Psychology with a concentration in Applied Behavioral Analysis at the University of Southern Maine. Her goal is to become a Board Certified Behavioral Analyst and bring all of the same lessons Coach Schwinn taught her throughout the next stages of her career.



Athletic Hall of Fame 2025

In 2018, the Raider Athletic Hall of Fame inducted its inaugural class of athletes and held its first ceremony. The Hall was established to recognize and celebrate the Academy's timeless belief that there is a correlation between a healthy mind, a healthy body, and the encouragement of a progressive education inclusive of the "whole individual".

WA recognizes that the successful integration of athletics into the academic curricula has inspired and engaged countless athletes, who continue to incorporate athletics into their lives as graduates.

Inaugural Raider inductees include the late Arthur "Tart" Gardner '38, Richard "Dick" Gardner '58, the late Wendall Libby '64, Bill Corbett '63, Stephen Cates '68, and Kathy Harmon '74. On August 1, 2025, WA inducted its fourth class of Raider athletes into the Hall of Fame. The Class of 2025 induction ceremony took place in the Gardner Gymnasium, beginning with a social hour, followed by dinner and athletic honors.

The ceremony celebrated the following members of the Class of 2025 Athletic Hall of Fame for their contributions to Raider sports and for their love of the game: the late Harvey Wakefield '36, Michael Look '71, Michael Fergerson, Sr. '78, Joey Seeley '87, Thad Frost '88, Ryan Richardson '95, Joshua Ramsdell '98, Kristy Albee '02, Steven Colbeth '04, members of the 1964 Cross Country and the 1987 Baseball teams. These athletes and teams competed for over 51 years on different teams collectively and experienced extraordinary success on the court and field.

Thad Frost '88 and Joey Seeley '87 enjoyed double honors at the ceremony, as exceptional individual athletes and as teammates on the 1987 Class C State Championship Baseball Team. For the Academy, the championship game was historic, being played on the Mahaney Diamond at the University of Maine, Orono, against the Hall-Dale Bulldogs, with the Raiders winning 5-3. The win was the first state title for the Raider baseball program.

The 1964 Raider Cross Country Team, coached by Dick Gardner '58, was also inducted into the Hall that evening. The Team was honored for their county and state championships. Many of the team members also contributed to the success of the 1966 and 1967 Cross Country Teams and are Class of 2022 Athletic Hall of Fame members.

To find a complete list of the Raider Hall of Fame members please visit: https://www.washingtonacademy.org/athletics/athletic-hall-of-fame








VOLLEYBALL STATE CHAMPIONS CLASS B 2010
VOLLEYBALL STATE CHAMPIONS CLASS B 2012
GIRLS BASKETBALL EASTERN MAINE CHAMPIONS CLASS C 2011
GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD EAST 2012
EAST
GIRLS CLASS C BASK




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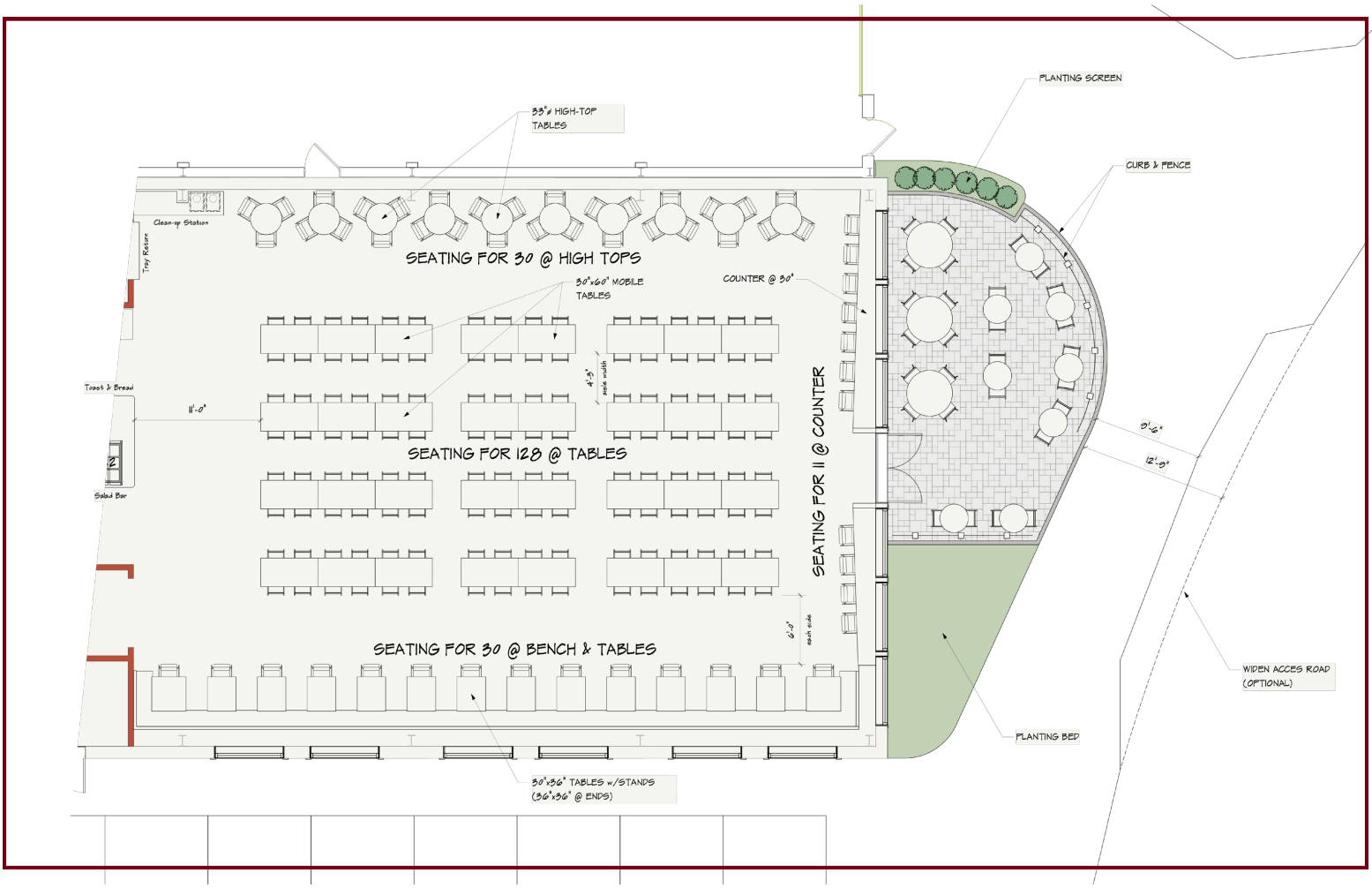


Serving the Future: Plans for a New Cafeteria and Kitchen

This spring officially marks the start of an important and necessary campus project - a new WA kitchen and cafeteria! The Academy is excited about the new space, which will transform an existing portion of the Industrial Arts Building, and plans to expand cafe-style seating outdoors.

The 5,000 square-foot space will include a modern, efficient kitchen that will enable easier preparation and service of fresh, nutritious meals for students, staff, and faculty. The streamlined cafeteria will provide comfortable seating and natural light, fostering a welcoming environment and social atmosphere for diners. Additionally, it will serve a dual purpose as a space for clubs, informal meetings, and Raider celebrations. The outdoor seating option will allow students to take advantage of being outside, which will provide a calming break during the school day and enhance the overall student experience.

The current kitchen and cafeteria now occupies the original Alumni Gymnasium which was built in 1959, in the center of the Academy's main building. The space is fondly known to alums for hosting many competitive basketball games and creating countless alumni memories throughout the years.



In the early 1960s it was the home to the annual Alumni Jamboree, where alums gathered for an evening of entertainment. The space would be filled with music, performances, raffles, and of course, a rousing game of basketball. In 1995, the Gardner Gymnasium was built, relocating all Raider competition to a new campus location and making the Alumni Gymnasium the existing kitchen and cafeteria.

With the new kitchen renovation, the Alumni Gym will once again serve as an athletic space, expanding opportunities for student-athletes to practice and compete.

In addition to the Alumni Gymnasium's return to athletics, its stage will also be renovated into a proper performing arts space, with the addition of curtains, a sound system, and expanded opportunities for student experiences on campus.

The renovation is expected to be completed and operational in the spring of 2027.

Board of Trustees Present First Legacy Award

This past fall, Washington Academy honored Katherine Look, M.D., as the first Legacy Award recipient. The Board of Trustees established the Legacy Award in 2025 to acknowledge an individual for their exceptional contributions and unwavering dedication to advancing the Academy's success.

The Award was presented at WA's Cornerstone Event, honoring distinguished donors at the Foss Point Event Center at West Branch Farms. Head of School Judson McBrine opened the event, sharing how Dr. Look has made an extraordinary impact on Washington Academy. He met Katherine more than 20 years ago when she brought her father, Adien Look, Class of 1947, to visit WA. During the campus visit, Adien recalled with great gratitude how Washington Academy teachers and administrators nurtured his love of learning and helped shape his future. Their visit and Adien's gratitude left a lasting impression on Mr. McBrine as a young headmaster.

Dr. Look is a nationally recognized physician residing in Tiburon, California, and has supported Washington Academy in memory of her father, Adien, for many years. Her generosity has helped build Raider science laboratories, and most recently, the Breaking New Ground campaign, which contributed to the creation of the Adien and Leon Look Memorial Baseball Field on campus. Adien loved Raider baseball and was the team's catcher in the late 1940s.

Dr. Look joined a group of distinguished Washington Academy donors via live video to accept her Legacy Award. Her cousin Michael Look '71 accepted the award in person on her behalf. Donna Cox '74 of Sanford, Maine, Dr. Look's cousin, was also in attendance.

The Washington Academy Board of Trustees Legacy Award is presented annually to an individual or organization in recognition of support for Raider education.



Dr. Katherine Look and her father Adien Look '47.

Welcoming New Board Member



Cynthia Moholland is a native of Washington County. She grew up in Eastport, Maine, and now resides in Robbinston with her husband, Tom, and son, WA senior Colby Moholland. Cynthia is no stranger to education, having worked for Washington County Community College (WCCC) for twenty-six years. She is currently an instructor and department chair at the college and WA's newest Board member.

She remarks about her Board role, "I value being involved in my students' day-to-day lives, and serving as a WA Board member allows me to contribute my experience at a broader, strategic level. I hope to support the leadership at Washington Academy by contributing to strategic planning, financial stewardship, and academic policy. I want to help advance the mission of Washington County students to obtain a diverse education needed to navigate life and reach their educational, career, and personal goals."

Cynthia and Tom's son Colby is a business-minded senior and is a force on the Raider baseball field. He will attend the University of Maine at Orono in the fall, playing Black Bear baseball. It is only natural when asked how Cynthia spends her spare time, that she answers, "I love watching WA baseball, traveling, and spending time with my husband and son."

CAMPUS STORIES

Larson Library Librarian Retires



Arlene Porter '80 served as the Larson Library librarian for 15 years before retiring in June of 2025. Her history with WA spans nearly a lifetime and is filled with fond memories, including meeting her husband, Scott Porter '80, at WA, where they were crowned the 1979 Prom King and Queen.

After graduating from Washington Academy, Mrs. Porter earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education from the University of Maine at Machias. Subsequently, she completed a Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of South Carolina in 2016. Her work at WA as a school librarian evolved over the years to include serving as a media specialist, creating an online library of more than 10,000 titles, and establishing a maker-type space for hands-on library activities.

In 2016, Mrs. Porter's passion for library science and early-college educational trends earned her the title of WA Online College Course Coordinator. In this role, she provided support and guidance to those students taking online early college courses. Throughout the years, Mrs. Porter mentored many students in creating a strong foundation for post-secondary success. Her relationships with WA students are memorable. At the end of the school year, it was not uncommon to see alumni visiting her after they returned to the area for the summer. The Larson Library was one of their first stops!

Today, she is enjoying retirement with Scott, in their new home, and continues to keep in touch with her former students.

Davis Maine Scholarship

For the first time, a WA student has been awarded the Davis Maine Scholarship! The Scholarship has been awarded for five years and is provided by the Maine Seacoast Mission, based in Northeast Harbor. Andrew Davis and the Shelby Cullom Davis Charitable Fund collaborate annually with Maine Seacoast Mission to provide four-year scholarships to first-generation, college-bound students in Downeast Maine to attend Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts; the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine; and Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts.

In December, senior Megan Ford of Pembroke was announced as one of four Washington County students to receive the Davis Maine Scholarship. Megan is a well-rounded WA student who is taking early college classes, serving as a teaching assistant for the Thomas College Public Speaking class, and singing in the chorus. Last spring, Megan performed as Glinda the Good Witch in the WA Players production of *The Wizard of Oz*. She is passionate about the performing arts and shares, "I am happiest when I am performing." Her favorite aspects of theater include the initial rehearsals when blocking and scripting are finalized, and the collaborative success that occurs once the performance begins and the story is shared with the audience.

Megan's favorite WA classes include chorus, band, and public speaking. She credits Mrs. Carroll's public speaking class for helping her learn and grow in a dynamic classroom environment.

Megan plans to major in theater in college.



Collegiate Athletic Commitments

This past fall, Raider pride was prevalent when five Raider athletes were honored for signing with their respective universities! Seniors Colby Moholland, Anabella Cirone, Meadow Rohde, Daniel Gardner, and Jade Gardner, along with coaches, friends, and family members, gathered for a signing ceremony as each athlete committed to play a collegiate sport next year.

Raider baseball first baseman Colby Moholland celebrated his commitment to the University of Maine, Orono. Colby has been a major contributor to Raider baseball with his power-hitting ability. As a Black Bear, Colby will major in business.

Raider softball pitcher Anabella Cirone celebrated her commitment to Suffolk University in Boston, Massachusetts. Last season, on the mound, Anabella achieved a softball career milestone: 500 strikeouts. As a Suffolk Ram, Anabella plans to study biology.

Raider softball catcher Meadow Rohde celebrated her commitment to Simmons University in Boston, Massachusetts. Meadow and Anabella have been playing together for years and will now, coincidentally, pursue collegiate softball careers in Boston. As a Simmons Shark, Meadow will major in nursing.

Raider baseball catcher Daniel Gardner celebrated his commitment to Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) in South Portland. As an SMCC Seawolf, Daniel will pursue a degree in culinary arts.

Raider goalie Jade Gardner will play as the goalkeeper for the Mars Hill Lions soccer team in North Carolina. In addition to playing soccer, Jade will pursue a degree in ecology and conservation biology with a minor in pre-veterinary science.





2025 Unobskey Scholars



Raider seniors have been busy enjoying their last year at Washington Academy as they begin planning their future! In an effort to provide rising juniors and seniors with preparatory experience beyond WA, the Unobskey Scholarship enabled Raiders Camren Mumme ’27, Linda Jessiman ’26, and Olivia Jorgensen ’26 to spend five weeks during the 2025 summer at Phillips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, at the Andover Summer Experience.

The Unobskey Scholars Program was established in 2019 by Phillips Academy graduate and Washington County resident Sidney Unobskey to provide twelve scholarships to students from Washington and Charlotte Counties. Andover Summer has over 600 students from around the world in attendance, preparing for college and pursuing individual enrichment.

Linda Jessiman shares, "I made new best friends that I am still in contact with now. The experience was community-based, with in-depth college class instruction and discussion." Linda's experience has sparked an interest in applying to Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, to study psychology, with a long-term goal of earning her doctorate in criminal psychology.

The 2026 Unobskey Scholars have just been announced and include Cara Cole ’28, Amakehs Mendoza ’28, Violet Dineen ’28, and alternate Brea Mumme ’29. 2026 Andover Summer will take place from June 30 to August 2.

Class of 2026 Top Ten



Samuel Davidson*
Undecided
Undecided



Marin Norton
Husson University
Pre-Medicine



Kellan Schwinn
Gordon College
Biology



Addisen Goodwin
University of Maine Orono
Communication Sciences & Disorders



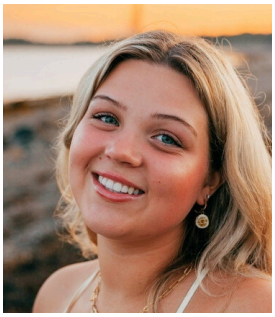
Hanna Megno*
Undecided
Undecided



Lily Hennessey
University of Maine Orono
Nursing



David Garcia-Sanchez*
Undecided
Architecture



Olivia Jorgensen*
Undecided
Chemistry



Lucas Cushing
University of Maine Orono
Nursing



Grace Howard*
Undecided
Undecided

*These scholars are awaiting competitive offers from desired universities & colleges.

New WA Career and College Scholarship

Washington Academy recognizes the growing economic challenges facing today's high school students and their families. This year, a bold new initiative was announced: the Washington Academy College & Career Scholarship. Beginning with the Class of 2029, graduates who reside in Washington County will receive a $500 scholarship to support their transition into college, career training, or the workforce.

Unlike traditional scholarships that are narrowly tied to academic performance or limited to college tuition, this fund is flexible and serves the needs of more students.

Head of School Mr. McBrine describes the intention of the Scholarship, "It's about life readiness. Whether our graduates are enrolling in college, beginning a trade, or launching a business, we want them to know that Washington Academy stands behind them."

The College and Career Scholarship will be supported through the support of loyal donors who provide annual gifts to ensure student success.

These gifts will directly impact the success of WA graduates in starting their careers and enrich communities locally and beyond.

To support the Scholarship, please visit:
https://www.washingtonacademy.org/giving/give-today

2024 - 2025



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Woody Moulton
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Carlos Montero Moreno '11
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Richard Young '55

Maroon & White Club $50-249

Keith & Susan Albee '97
The Anchor
David '60 & Judy Armstrong
Atlantic Landscape
Linda Beverly
In Memory of William Beverly '63
Larry Bryant '63
Brian '72 & Wanda Cates
Josh '98 & Laurie Cates '97
Rhonda Conners
In Memory of Charles R. Reynolds '81
The Computer Guy
Janet M. Denbleyker
In Memory of Albert Foster
Peg Dowling
In Memory of Harry A. Dowling '62
Eastern Maine Electric Company
Emery Painting
Dustin Emery '14
Betsy Fitzgerald '66
In Memory of Barbara & Arthur Beatty
Matthew '99 & Rebecca Gardner
David & Angela Garrison '91
Patricia Gibson '55
In Memory of Edmund Gibson
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Shirley Hornketh
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Junjoy Kim
King Construction
Michael Look '71
In Memory of Leon '49 & Virginia Look '51
Richard Lindsey '64
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Machias Valley Baptist Church
Murphy's Garage, Inc.
Dennis Mahar '79
Jade Murdock '97
The Potter's Hands
Pratt Chevrolet
Preston's Portable LLC
Joyce Richardson
In Memory of Linnie Crane '47
Roy Toy Manufacturing
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University of Maine at Machias
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Raider Club up to $49

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In Honor of Jessica '96 & Jim Talbot

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Your generous donations have allowed us to support the achievements of our students, faculty and staff in classrooms, on playing fields, in labs, and on the stage.

WA CLASS NOTES



Heather (Gardner) Perry was recently named the 2026 Maine Superintendent of the Year by the Maine School Superintendents' Association. Heather currently serves as superintendent of the Gorham School District, where she has worked for the past decade and is recognized for her student-centered approach to education. Heather began her career as a teaching principal in Machias and earned her doctorate from the University of Southern Maine. Heather and her husband Peter, reside in Limington, Maine.



Chris Lyford has returned to WA as the Director of Finance and Operations in January of 2026. Prior to the position, Chris spent many years on the WA Board of Trustees, serving as president and treasurer. He also spent twenty-five years at Machias Savings Bank, as the Chief Operating Officer, Executive Vice President for ten years, and Senior Leadership Team member for fifteen years. He and his wife, Andrea '96, reside in East Machias and recently became grandparents to Fae Elanor.



Jen Beckwith has returned to WA as the WA Player's new Drama Moderator. Jen studied theatre at Meredith College in North Carolina and brings experience in drama both as a former WA student and as a past drama facilitator. She plans to help rebuild and expand the drama program by offering opportunities for students to develop skills in acting, stage production, directing, and performance. Jen currently works at the Washington County Children's Program in Machias as a Behavioral Health Professional and Educational Technician.



Arielle Richardson spent the past decade traveling, including three years in Armenia with the Peace Corps, five years living in southern Turkey, and an eclectic mix of places in between. Many miles later, she's back home, serving her community as the Executive Director of Down East Hospice Volunteers. When not bouncing around the county for work, she enjoys hikes on the coast with friends and slow afternoons at the bookstore in Eastport.



Cameryn (Farnsworth) Edgell graduated from Cairn University in Middletown Township, Pennsylvania, in 2022 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Youth and Family Ministry and a Master's Degree in Organizational Development. In 2023, Cameryn married Maine State Forest Ranger Torin Edgell. The couple resides in Oakfield, Maine, and welcomed their first child, McKenna Elaine, in February 2026.



Kodie Priest recently moved to Perry, Maine, adopted four horses, and started a mini-farm. In addition, he began a job at Little River Veterinary Clinic in Perry, Maine, and is currently in school at Westmoreland Community College in Pennsylvania for Veterinary Assisting, with the future goal of achieving his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, specializing in large animals.



Mackenzie (Cates) Currier graduated from Thomas College in Waterville, Maine, in 2024 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Communications, Public Relations and Marketing. Since graduating from Thomas College, Mackenzie has started her own business, Mackenzie Currier Photography. Last year, she married Anderson Currier '20 and they are expecting their first child this May.



Hannah Maker is currently attending the University of Maine, at Orono (UMO). She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. In addition to her studies, Hannah is assisting with the Downeast Population Health Initiative, where she is helping older Washington County adults connect with physical and mental health resources. Hannah will graduate from UMO this May.

▪ IN MEMORIAM ▪

Paul M. Griffin '55 - 7/5/2018
Philip E. Keen '55 - 8/3/2019
Reginald G. Foss '55 - 10/7/2019
Clarence Dennison '56 - 11/2/2021
Claire E. Eddy '56 - 1/30/2022
Timothy Moore '93 - 1/24/2025
Emery Ingalls '49 - 2/6/2025
Arthur Andrews '53 - 2/14/2025
Larry Bradbury '75 - 3/1/2025
Phillip Gibson '61 - 5/4/2025
William Prescott '58 - 5/15/2025
Lester W. Huntley '57 - 6/10/2025
Steven E. Richardson '95 - 7/13/2025
Adair E. Bagley '52 - 7/20/2025
Wayne Stanhope '95 - 8/12/2025
Nicholas Jones '07 - 10/15/2025
Robert B. Gardner '50 - 10/16/2025
Edward "Harlie" Flynn '45 - 11/12/2025
Hovey Hall '50 - 11/14/2025
Lorraine Stanhope '58 - 12/9/2025
Wade C. Day '70 - 12/21/2025
Louisa M. Plummer '89 - 1/23/2026
Dorothy Sweeney '43 - 1/26/2026
John Griffin '48 - 2/26/2026
Angela Geel '08 - 3/2026
Cindy White '81 - 3/6/2026

WASHINGTON ACADEMY
ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME
2026

2026 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Dinner

Saturday, September 26, 2026

Gardner Gymnasium at 4:30

For ticket information please contact development@raider4life.org

Alumni/ Development Office
PO Box 190
E. Machias, ME 04630

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CELEBRATING WA ALUMNI!

SATURDAY
JULY•2026
11
5-8PM

CELEBRATING THE CLASSES OF:
2014 • 2015 • 2016 • 2004 • 2005 • 2006
1999 • 2000 • 2001 • 1994 • 1995 • 1996
1984 • 1985 • 1986 • 1974 • 1975 • 1976
1964 • 1965 • 1966 • 1954 • 1955 • 1956

FILET MIGNON $45 • SEAFOOD STUFFED HADDOCK $45
CHICKEN MARSALA $40 • PASTA PRIMAVERA $35

CASH BAR • RAFFLE

WEST BRANCH FARMS
FOSS POINT EVENT CENTER, 180 W.KENNEBEC ROAD, MACHIAS 04654

RSVP by June 29 with payment by Venmo, PayPal, or check.
Venmo: @Kathy-Harmon-36 | **PayPal:** @kqharmon56@gmail.com
Make check payable to: WA Alumni Association, PO Box 466, East Machias, ME 04630